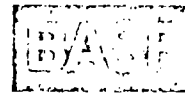


BASF Wyandotte Corporation



Wyandotte, Michigan 48192
313 282-3300

September 5, 1975

RECEIVED

SEP 8 1975

Water Qual. Control

Mr. Robert J. Courchaine
Chief Engineer
Michigan Water Resources Commission
Stevens T. Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48926


Dear Mr. Courchaine:

Attached is a report of a seepage loss of styrene to the ground waters of our plant area. The loss occurred over a period of several weeks in August, but was not detected until August 27 when it was promptly reported to Mr. Wayne Denniston. We are following the suggestions of Michigan Water Resources staff members in our recovery efforts on this material. Our efforts in this area are continuing.

If you have any questions in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

BASF WYANDOTTE CORPORATION


W. J. Leisten, Superintendent
Pollution Control Department

di
Attachment

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5

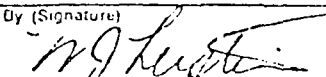


406773

1072

OIL, SALT OR POLLUTING MATERIAL LOSSES

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 245 of the Public Acts of Michigan 1979 as amended, regulations have been issued which require that all owners, managers or operators of vessels, oil storage or on land facilities shall notify the Natural Resources Commission or his authorized representative of oil, salt and polluting material losses. This notification shall be made promptly by telephone or teletype, giving briefly the particulars, and by mail, giving a detailed account of event and conditions.

Date September 5, 1975		Company Name BASF Wyandotte Corporation	
Location of Loss (Be Specific) Corporation's Wyandotte Polyol Plant Wyandotte, Michigan			
Material Lost Styrene	Amount About 15,000 gal.	Name of surface water involved Ground Water	
Date Loss was Discovered August 27, 1975		Time of Discovery 6:00 p.m.	
Name of Department of Natural Resources Representative Contacted Mr. Wayne Denniston			
Telephoned or Teletyped by Whom W. J. Leisten			Time 7:30 p.m.
Cause of Loss (Include Type of Equipment and Other Details) See back of this sheet.			
Nature of Loss (Include Complete Description of Damage) Styrene is lighter than water and is also insoluble in it. The seepage collected on top of the ground water table and in a plant cable trench. Tests of the plant outfall stream failed to disclose detectable limits of styrene from which we concluded that none escaped to the Detroit River. To date, we have recovered approximately 52% of the material lost and recovery efforts are continuing.			
Additional Comments (Include Method of Control, Plans for Prevention of Recurrence, etc.) We are revising our Engineering Standards to improve our dike construction to contain all leaks from tanked critical materials. The styrene tank will be brought up to the new standards.			
Company Name BASF Wyandotte Corporation		By (Signature) 	

Return this form to:

Department of Natural Resources
Bureau of Water Management
8th Floor Stevens T. Mason Bldg.
Lansing, Michigan 48926

24 hr. Emergency Notification Number
517 — 373-7660

1072

Cause of Loss

The loss occurred from a new storage tank in a newly diked tank farm. A small hole in the bottom of the tank escaped detection during fabrication and testing. The tank was originally loaded with about 19,000 gallons of styrene about July 19th. On August 27 plant personnel detected the odor of styrene in the area. A check of the tank indicated that 15,000 gallons had seeped into the ground water. The leak was not contained in the diked area as it flowed under the tank foundation and, thus escaped collection in the compacted clay bottom diked area.